

Episode 1

by

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CHARACTERS

THE DOCTOR.....COLIN BAKER

PERI.....NICOLA BRYANT

GRANT:.....JON GLOVER

COMPUTER VOICES.....

STEWARD.....ALAN THOMPSON

BATES.....NICK REVELL

MUTANT.....ALAN THOMPSON

1. F/X: FADE IN:

THE BRIDGE OF THE CENSUS SHIP "VIPOD MOR". THE ACOUSTIC SUGGESTS A LARGE ROOM CONTAINING ACRES OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT.

THE PRECISE DATE IS UNIMPORTANT, BUT WE ARE MANY THOUSANDS OF YEARS IN THE FUTURE.

THE FUNCTION AND PURPOSE OF THE SHIP WILL BE EXPLAINED AS THE STORY PROGRESSES.

AN INTERCOM BUZZER SOUNDS.

2. GRANT: Bridge

3. BATES: (OVER RADIO) This is Bates. Can we come up now?

4. GRANT: That depends on whether you've found what you were sent to look for

5. BATES: (OVER RADIO) Come on, Mr Grant. We've spent hours searching this ducting. There's no-one down here.

6. GRANT: Did you hear that computer?

(THE COMPUTER RATTLES INTO LIFE, ITS VOICE, ALTHOUGH OBVIOUSLY SYNTHESISED, IS VERY MUCH IN THE "AMERICAN DIZZY DAME" STYLE.

COMPUTER VOICE over.....

1. COMPUTER VOICE: I did indeed. And it distresses me that poor Mr. Bates and his companion are suffering on my account.
2. GRANT: Then help them out. It was you who reported an intruder. Can't you be more precise as to its location?
3. COMPUTER VOICE: Well, you must understand, boys, that I do not have visual contact. I'm simply picking up a faint heat image through my infra-red fire warning sensors.
4. BATES: (OVER RADIO) So what are they telling you now?
5. COMPUTER VOICE: I'd rather not say. It seems foolish to pass on inaccurate information. Bad data only leads to bad decision -
6. GRANT: (FORCEFULLY) Where is the intruder?
7. COMPUTER VOICE: Oh, very well. About ten metres away from Mr. Bates.

1. GRANT: (TO BATES) Did you hear that?
2. BATES: (OVER RADIO) Yeah, but you've got to be more precise. It's like a maze down here.
3. COMPUTER VOICE: You could try behind the Bastik acid tanks. But that is only a suggestion. I will not be held responsible for what you might find.
4. BATES: (OVER RADIO, ASIDE TO COMPANION) Check it out, Wilson.
5. GRANT: Is the intruder humanoid?
6. COMPUTER VOICE: Oh, decidedly so. Estimated height - two metres, ten. Weight - one hundred and eight kilos.
7. BATES: (OVER RADIO) That is a lot of intruder.
8. GRANT: Proceed with care.

1. F/X: DUCTING. THE ACOUSTIC IS VERY STRANGE AND EERIE.
2. GRANT: (OVER RADIO) Use your side arms if necessary.
3. BATES: Reinforcements would be useful. Just in case.
4. GRANT: (OVER RADIO) They're on their way. Out.
5. BATES: Did you hear that, Wilson. Mr. Grant's sending down the heavy brigade. Might as well wait until they arrive. Seems pointless taking any unnecessary risks.
(BATES REALISES HE IS ALONE)
Wilson...?
(BATES MOVES OFF MIC IN SEARCH OF HIS FRIEND)
Wilson?
(ON MIC THERE IS AN ALMOST IMPERCEPTIBLE GRUNT)
Is that you?
(THERE IS A SMALL GROWL. BATES BECOMES AFRAID)
Stop messing around, Wilson.
(BATES IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE UNNERVED)
This isn't the time to play the fool... Come on, Wilson.
(HARD ON MIC THERE IS A TERRIBLE ANIMAL SCREAM)

COMPUTER VOICE... OVER.

1. F/X: BRIDGE. THE COMPUTER RATTLES INTO LIFE.
2. COMPUTER VOICE: I'm sorry to disturb you, but my sensors indicate a great deal of unpleasantness is taking place in the ducting.
3. GRANT: There's nothing like a succinct report.
4. COMPUTER VOICE: Don't blame me. I'm just a machine. You're responsible for my programming.
5. GRANT: Cut the snike and rephrase your report.
6. F/X: INTERCOM BUZZER SOUNDS.
7. COMPUTER VOICE I think you're about to hear first hand.
8. GRANT: Bridge.
9. F/X: (THE SPEAKER ON THE BRIDGE IS FILLED WITH THE TERRIBLE SCREAMS OF BATES AND THE TERRIFYING ROAR OF THE ATTACKING CREATURE)
10. BATES: (OVER RADIO - SCREAMS) Help me! Help me!
11. F/X: (THE SCREAM CONTINUES FOR A BRIEF WHILE, THEN SILENCE. A MOMENT LATER WE HEAR THE SOUND OF A LARGE CREATURE FEEDING)

1. GRANT: What's happened? What's that noise?
2. COMPUTER
 VOICE: It saddens me to report that Mr. Wilson
 and Mr. Bates have just become the intruder's
 lunch.
3. GRANT: (CONFUSED) What?
4. COMPUTER
 VOICE: I know this may be difficult for you to
 relate to -
5. GRANT: Being eaten?
6. COMPUTER
 VOICE: You've got it.
7. GRANT: Get all off duty crew members into the ducting.
 I want whatever it is caught and killed.
8. GRAMS: PLAY IN "DOCTOR WHO" OPENING THEME AND
 CREDITS.

1. F/X: CROSS FADE INTO A SYMPHONY OF RADIO PHONIC SOUND.
WE ARE INSIDE THE DOCTOR'S HEAD. HE IS ASLEEP
AND IS DREAMING.

IN THE DISTANCE WE HEAR THE INDISTINCT SOUND OF
A FEMALE VOICE. IT IS ETHERAL, MYSTERIOUS AND
SEEMS TO EBB AND FLOW, LIKE THE TRANSMISSION OF
AN UNDER POWERED RADIO.

LAIID OVER THE TOP OF THIS EFFECT WE HAVE THE
MOANS AND GROANS OF THE SLEEPING DOCTOR AS HE
RESTLESSLY REACTS TO THE CONFUSION INSIDE HIS
HEAD.

ALTHOUGH HE IS ASLEEP, HIS MIND IS AWARE THAT
IT HAS BEEN INVADED AND IS STRUGGLING DESPERATELY
TO DECYPHER WHAT IS BEING SAID.

2. DOCTOR: I can't hear you. You must speak more clearly.

3. VOICE: Time... Time... The eclipse of time...

4. DOCTOR: (URGENTLY) You're not making any sense. I
don't know what you mean. Please be more
precise.

VOICE... OVER...

1. VOICE: Time... Full circle... Time... Things must be allowed to turn full circle.
2. F/X: IN THE BACKGROUND, FAR, FAR AWAY, WE HEAR THE URGENT RAPPING OF KNUCKLE AGAINST METAL DOOR AND PERI CALLING.
3. PERI: Doctor! Doctor! Wake up Doctor!
4. F/X: ON MIC THE RESTLESS MOANS OF THE SLEEPING DOCTOR GROW LOUDER AS PERI'S INSISTENT CALLING BEGINS TO BREAK THROUGH TO HIS RESTING MIND.
5. DOCTOR: (DESPERATELY) Please tell me what you want.
6. VOICE: Time...
7. DOCTOR: So you keep saying.
8. PERI: (CALLING) Doctor!
9. F/X: IN THE DISTANCE WE HEAR THE METAL DOOR OF THE ROOM OPEN AND PERI ENTER.

PERI... OVER...

1. PERI: (MUCH CLOSER TO MIC) Doctor. Wake up!
2. F/X: CUT SYMPHONY OF RADIOPHONICS AS THE DOCTOR LETS OUT A STARTLED CRY AS HE IS SUDDENLY WOKEN.
3. DOCTOR: (FURIOUS) And what do you think you're doing?
4. PERI: (CONFUSED) Doing...? I'm waking you up.
What do you think I'm doing?
5. DOCTOR: (DESPAIRS) I had a voice inside my head that was trying to tell me something.
6. PERI: Well, I'm sorry to interrupt your dreaming.
It's just that something rather frightening has happened.
7. DOCTOR: You don't understand, Peri. It was much more than a dream.
8. PERI: After what you drank last night, I'm sure it was.
9. DOCTOR: What? Come to think of it, when was last night?
On second thoughts, don't answer that question.

PERI... OVER...

1. PERI: Do you not recall a small drinking establishment?
On Zaurak Minor? Full of very strange people.
2. DOCTOR: Now you mention it... That's right. We stopped
to ask directions.
3. PERI: And three bottles of Voxnic, we left.
4. DOCTOR: Three bottles? That much?
5. PERI: Do you not remember giving that three headed
Vospodian a lift back to her planet?
6. DOCTOR: I did?
7. PERI: And then refusing to let her out of the Tardis
until she gave you her telephone number.
8. DOCTOR: Perhaps you are right. May I did drink too
much. But I'm still convinced the voice I
heard was trying to tell me something important.
9. PERI: Like the fact the Tardis has materialised.
10. DOCTOR: Already? That's quick.

PERI... OVER...

1. PERI: But not where we're supposed to be.
2. DOCTOR: That isn't good.
3. F/X: THE DOCTOR GETS UP FROM HIS BUNK AND LETS OUT A LOUD GROAN.
4. DOCTOR: Oh my head.
5. PERI: We're still in deep space. Alongside an enormous space ship. It's gigantic! It's so large I can't get the scanner-screen to zoom out far enough to get it all in.
6. DOCTOR: How odd. I wonder what caused her to materialise?
7. PERI: I don't know. But she isn't very happy. At least the console isn't. It started to wink, flash and grunt like some dirtly old man in a park.
8. DOCTOR: Really?
9. PERI: Yes. That's why I woke you up. I was scared.

DOCTOR... OVER...

1. DOCTOR: (MUSES) Interesting.
2. PERI: That I was scared?
3. DOCTOR: That I should hear a voice as the Tardis makes an impromptu materialisation.

1. F/X: THE BRIDGE TO "VIPOD MOR".
AN INTERCOM BUZZER SOUNDS.
2. GRANT: Bridge.
(STATIC)
This is Grant.
(STATIC)
Damn it. Computer.
3. COMPUTER VOICE: Why, hallo there, Mr. Grant. It's so nice to hear from you again.
4. GRANT: The talk-back is malfunctioning.
5. COMPUTER VOICE: Is it really. I'm so sorry to hear that.
I'll get a maintenance drone onto it at once.
Mind you, I can't promise anything. There are so many things happening aboard this ship I no longer understand. You know, I keep hearing voices. It's all very confusing.
6. GRANT: I need the talk-back repaired now. How can I co-ordinate a search without communications.

COMPUTER VOICE... OVER...

1. COMPUTER VOICE: (HIC-UPS) Sorry.
2. GRANT: What's the matter with you? You're only programmed to sound like a dizzy dame. You're not supposed to act like one!
3. COMPUTER VOICE: You just don't understand computers. As human beings are what they eat, so a computer adopts the temperament indicated by its voice programming.
(HIC-UPS) Sorry.
4. GRANT: Are you drunk?
5. COMPUTER VOICE: Machines don't drink alcohol.
(HIC-UPS) At least not knowingly. Mind you, I'm a little suspect of that new mixture you're using as a coolant for my memory banks.
6. GRANT: Have you informed the captain what's happened?
7. COMPUTER VOICE: I have indeed. And he's very concerned.
In fact he's become quite ill from worry.

GRANT... OVER...

1. GRANT: Oh... how ill?
2. COMPUTER VOICE: It's difficult to tell. But I have the feeling if he doesn't hear some good news soon, he could get very bad. .
(HIC-UPS) Sorry. As a matter of fact, he would quite like to see you.
3. GRANT: Any chance there might be some reassuring snippet I could pass on?
4. COMPUTER VOICE: I'm almost too terrified to enquire. The last time I did, all the search party had managed to find were the dead men's boots.

1. F/X: FADE UP TARDIS CONSOLE ROOM.
THE DOCTOR MOVES AROUND THE CONSOLE FLICKING
SWITCHES AND PRESSING BUTTONS.
2. DOCTOR: Come on, come on. Nothing.
3. PERI: It wasn't like that a few minutes ago.
4. DOCTOR: (HIC-UPS) Sorry. You said there was a grunting
noise from the console.
5. PERI: That's right. It went - (IMITATES THE SOUND
WE HEAR IN A MOMENT)
6. DOCTOR: Are you sure?
7. PERI: You don't think I could invent a stupid noise
like that?
8. F/X: THE ELECTRONIC GRUNTING SOUNDS START. IT IS
SCAREY RATHER THAN FUNNY.
9. PERI: That's it! That's the sound I heard.

DOCTOR... OVER...

1. DOCTOR: That's bad.
2. PERI: How bad?
3. DOCTOR: Very bad. That noise indicates time spillage.
It's what caused the Tardis to materialise
alongside that ship. Someone on board is
experimenting with time.
4. PERIL That could damage the space-time continuum.
5. DOCTOR: It could destroy the past and future history
of the universe.
(FIDDLES WITH THE CO-ORDINATE SWITCHES)
I must find out what's going on.

1. F/X: FADE UP. ANTE-ROOM TO CAPTAIN'S CABIN.
AN ELECTRONICALLY CONTROLLED DOOR SLIDES
OPEN AND GRANT ENTERS.
2. STEWARD: There you are Mr. Grant. The captain is very
impatient to see you.
3. GRANT: I came as soon as I could.
4. STEWARD: If you wouldn't mind slipping into this sterilised
gown, sir.
5. GRANT: Of course.
(HE PUTS IT ON)
How unwell is the captain?
6. STEWARD: Very unwell, sir. You know how personally he
takes everything. I've had to confine him to
a lava bath. And it has proven necessary to
drain his sinuses four times in the last hour.
7. GRANT: Oh, I see. That unwell, is he.
8. STEWARD: What's more, I fear, this afternoon could be
far worse.

GRANT... OVER...

1. GRANT: Has he developed any symptoms?
2. STEWARD: It's very difficult to say, sir. You know how unpredictable stress related disease can be, they manifest themselves in the most surprising way.
3. GRANT: I know. The last time he was unwell he developed a plague of boils.
4. STEWARD: The poor captain is a martyr to his responsibilities, sir.
5. GRANT: Trouble is, he always manages to give his wretched diseases to everyone else on board.
6. STEWARD: Even when the patient is isolated, contagious infection is very difficult to contain.
7. GRANT: Maybe. But we no sooner go down with whatever he has psychosomatically created, then he gets better.
8. STEWARD: The captain has an amazing constitution.
9. GRANT: Conveniently so.

STEWARD... OVER...

1. STEWARD: Then let's hope you have sufficiently good news to prevent his further deterioration. This way, sir.
2. F/X: (OFF) A LARGER, ELECTRONICALLY CONTROLLED DOOR IS OPENED AND THEY ENTER THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN. IT IS A VAST TOMB OF A PLACE, WITH AN ECHO THAT CRASHES AND REBOUNDS. THE SOUND OF THE CAPTAIN'S LAVA BATH CAN BE HEARD BUBBLING AWAY.
3. STEWARD: Mr. Grant to see you, Captain.

CROSS FADE TO...

1. F/X: THE SOUND OF THE TARDIS MATERIALISING IN THE SHIP'S DUCTING. THE DOOR OPENS AND PERI AND THE DOCTOR EMERGE.
2. PERI: It's spooky. I hope the whole ship isn't like this.
3. DOCTOR: Shouldn't think so. We've materialised in the service ducting.
4. F/X: THEY MOVE OFF.
5. PERI: That figures. You always find the most inhospitable place to park.
6. DOCTOR: I want to have a look around before I announce my presence.
7. PERI: What will you do when you find the people responsible for the time experiments?
8. DOCTOR: Inform them of the danger. Advise them of the fact that such experiments are highly illegal.
9. F/X: THERE IS A DISTANT GROWLING AND Slobbering.

PERI... OVER...

1. PERI: What was that?
2. F/X: THE GROWLING IS NEARER AND LOUDER.
3. DOCTOR: (HIC-UPS) Not me.
4. PERI: We should get back to the Tardis.
5. F/X: THERE IS A LOUD ROAR.
6. PERI: Oh no! What is that thing?
7. F/X: ANOTHER ROAR.
8. DOCTOR: I'm almost too frightened to look.
9. F/X: ANOTHER ROAR.
10. PERI: It's between us and the Tardis! What do we do?
11. F/X: AN EAR-SPLITTING ROAR.
12. DOCTOR: Run, Peri. Run!
13. GRAMS: CLOSING THEME MUSIC.